INSECTS OF MICRONESIA
Coleoptera: Endomychidae[1]

By H. F. STROHECKER
PROFESSOR OF ZOOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI

Much of the material here reported has been collected under the auspices of the United States Office of Naval Research. Other specimens have come from Chicago Natural History Museum, Bernice P. Bishop Museum, California Academy of Sciences, and Kyushu University. Professor Teiso Esaki has supplied me with an English translation of his report in Mushi (**13**: 114).

The United States Office of Naval Research, the Pacific Science Board (National Research Council), the National Science Foundation, and Bishop Museum have made this survey and the publication of the results possible. Field research was aided by a contract between the Office of Naval Research, Department of the Navy, and the National Academy of Sciences, NR 160-175.

The following symbols indicate the institutions in which specimens are stored: US (United States National Museum), BISHOP (Bishop Museum), and CM (Chicago Natural History Museum).

While the greatest development of the family Endomychidae is found in southeastern Asia and its large continental islands, the eastward spread of the group has been slight. Even the large areas of Australia and New Guinea have few species and the Philippine fauna is poor compared to that of Borneo. Only two species of endomychids are known from Micronesia—one widespread and the second described here for the first time and apparently endemic.

KEY TO SUBFAMILIES OF MICRONESIAN ENDOMYCHIDAE

1. Tarsi four-segmented; antenna stout, four- or five-segmented.............. **Trochoideinae**
   Tarsi pseudotrimerous; antenna 11-segmented.............. **Stenotarsinae**

TROCHOIDEINAE

Genus **Trochoideus** Westwood

Trochoideus Westwood, 1833, Linn. Soc. London, Trans. **16**: 673 (type: *Paussus cruciatus* Dalman); 1838, Ent. Soc. London, Trans. **1838**: 95.—Gerstaecker, 1858, Monogr. Endom., 381.—Chapuis, 1876, Gen. Coleopt.

[1] This represents, in part, Results of Professor T. Esaki's Micronesian Expeditions (1936-1940), No. 94.

12: 147.—Arrow, 1925, Fauna of India, Erotyl., 402.—Strohecker, 1953, Genera Insectorum **210**: 39.

Pseudopaussus Schulze, 1916, Philippine Jour. Sci. **11**: 292.

The taxonomy of the genus is not satisfactory at present. Apparently four or five species occur in the Old World tropics and two or three in South America.

1. **Trochoideus desjardinsi** Guérin-Méneville (fig. 1).

Trochoideus desjardinsi Guérin-Méneville, 1838, Rev. Zool., 22.—Gerstaecker, 1858, Monogr. Endom., 385.—Arrow, 1925, Fauna of India, Erotyl., 402.—Esaki, 1941, Mushi **13**: 114.—Swezey, 1942, B. P. Bishop Mus., Bull. **172**: 158.

Pseudopaussus monstrosus Schulze, 1916, Philippine Jour. Sci. **11**: 292.

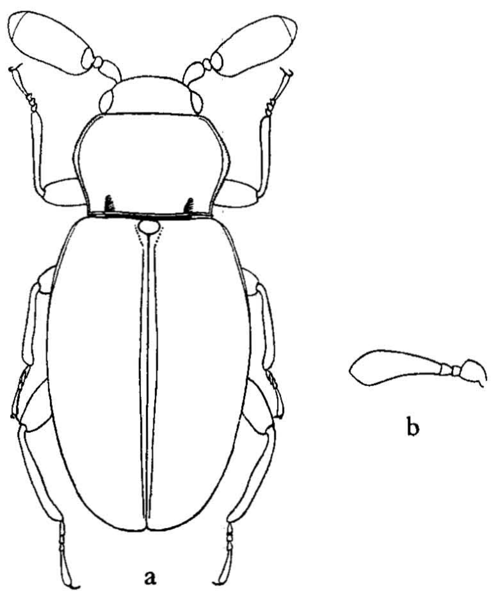


FIGURE 1.—*Trochoideus desjardinsi*: **a**, male; **b**, antenna of female.

The short, swollen antennae of this easily recognized insect are probably an adaptation to life with ants and termites. Although the synonymy is lengthy (Arrow, 1925, Fauna of India, Erotyl., 402), the two Micronesian records are correct. Esaki reports it as living in the nests of the ants *Paratrechina longicornis* (Latreille) and *Anoplolepis longipes* (Jerdon).

DISTRIBUTION: Eastern Africa and Madagascar to Samoa and the Philippine Is.; Bonin, Mariana, and Caroline Is.

BONIN. CHICHI JIMA: Omura, June, July 1949, Mead; Tsurihama, June 1949, Mead. HAHA JIMA: June 1949, Mead.

S. MARIANA IS. SAIPAN: Oct. 1927; Donni-Sadog, May 1940, Yasumatsu and Yoshimura; Talafofo, Oct. 1941, Matusita, Jan. 1945, E. Hagen, June 1951, R. Bohart. ROTA: Sonson-Taipingot, Nov. 1937, Esaki; Sonson Isthmus, Oct. 1945, Necker. GUAM: Fadang, Pt. Oca, Com. Mar. Hill, Mt. Santa Rosa, Agana, Sinajana, Talofofo, Mt. Alifan, Pilgo River, Dededo, Agat, Barrigada, Mt. Tenjo, Yigo, and Yona (March-October), collected by Bryan, Swezey, Usinger, Bohart, Gressitt, Dybas, Wallace, Maehler, Krauss, and Fullaway.

PALAU. BABELTHUAP: Ngiwal, Nov. 1951, Gressitt. KOROR: Nov. 1947, Dybas.

YAP. RUMUNG: Eastern part, July-Aug. 1950, Goss. GAGIL-TOMIL: Tomil District, July-Aug. 1950, Goss.

CAROLINE ATOLLS. FASSARAI: Oct. 1952, Krauss.

TRUK. Apr. 1940, Yasumatsu and Yoshimura.

KUSAIE. "Hill 541," 165 m., Feb. 1953, Clarke.

The range of *T. desjardinsi* is approximately coextensive with the Old World distribution of the coconut palm, but no definite relation with the plant is known. Beside the records of myrmecophily cited, it has been collected in rotten stem of banana (Swezey), in rotten papaya (Bohart and Gressitt), in dead rachis of *Angiopteris* (Swezey), in dead leaves, in dead wood, and under bark (Bryan, Swezey, Usinger, Mead, Clarke).

STENOTARSINAE

Genus **Stenotarsus** Perty

Stenotarsus Perty, 1832, Delect. Animal. Art., 112 (monotype: *S. brevicollis* Perty).—Gerstaecker, 1858, Monogr. Endom., 298.—Arrow, 1925, Fauna of India, Erotyl., 370.—Strohecker, 1953, Genera Insectorum **210**: 49.

Pronotum with broad, raised margins, prosternum prolonged behind front coxae, its apex spatulate, mesosternum quadrate, excavated to receive the prosternal process, tarsi with penultimate segment minute, thus appearing three-segmented, the second segment lobed and pubescent beneath.

This genus is widely distributed over the warm regions of the world and includes many species of superficially different appearance but fundamentally similar structure.

2. Stenotarsus politus Strohecker, n. sp. (fig. 2).

Ovoid in form, almost equally narrowed at each end. Thorax with side margins broad and flat, disc strongly convex, base sinuate with hind angles rectangular. Elytra subparallel, three times as long as pronotum. Entire upper surface strongly shining, pronotum finely punctured, elytra coarsely and sparsely punctured with a short bristle in each puncture. Pronotum black with red margins, elytra brownish-red with a large black area narrowed externally. Antennae ferruginous except for segments 8-10, which are black. The

series presents considerable variation in coloration, probably due to the teneral state of some of the specimens. Ground color varies from pale yellow to deep brownish-red, while dark area of elytron may be only a small dusky spot or may cover most of elytron. No external sexual differences. Length 2.5 mm., breadth 1.4 mm.

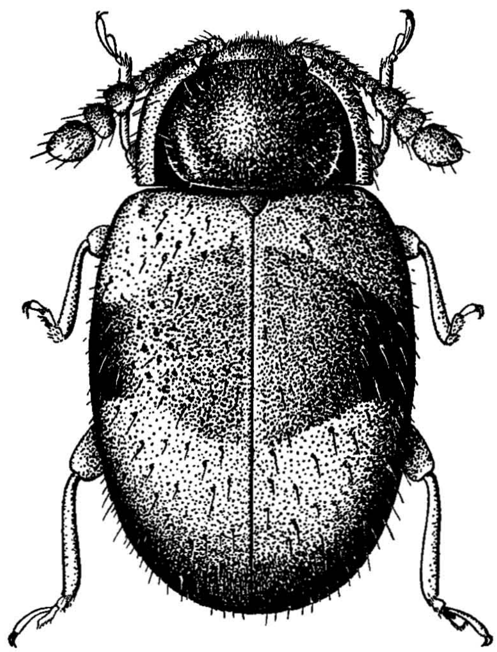


FIGURE 2.—*Stenotarsus politus.*

Holotype, male (US 63445), Palau, Koror, Limestone Ridge south of inlet, Jan. 22, 1948, beating vegetation, H. S. Dybas; paratypes (CM, BISHOP, author's coll.); two specimens with data of holotype; two specimens collected on Jan. 21; eight on Jan. 17 (other data as for holotype); one specimen collected by Dybas on Ulebsehel (Aurapushekaru), Palau, Jan. 13, 1948.

DISTRIBUTION: Western Caroline Is. (Palau).

In the great convexity of the pronotal disc, shining surface, and sparsely punctured and setose elytra, this species is most similar to *S. flavoscapularis* Strohecker of the Philippines. It is, however, more elongate and of different coloration.